

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRC ON KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT

FOL IS EXCERPT FROM KOREAN SECTION OF PRC VICE-FOREIGN MINISTER'S 2 OCT GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT:
" IS SOUTH KOREAN SO LACKING IN NATIONAL SELF-RESPECT THAT IT MUST RELY ON THE SUPPORT OF FOREIGN FORCES? OBVIOUSLY, SUCH A STATE OF AFFAIRS CANNOT BE TOLERATED BY THE PEOPLE IN SOUTH KOREA, SUBSEQUENTLY, THANKS TO THE INITIATIVE OF PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, A JOINT STATEMENT OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREAN ON THE INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY WAS ISSUED ON 4 JULY 1972, LEADING TO THE START OF THE A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH. THIS WAS A BIG STEP TOWARDS THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES FROM KOREA AND THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA BY THE KOREANS THEMSELVES, WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THIS STATEMENT, THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, SIGNED 19 YEARS AGO, TO THE GREAT EXTENT CEASED TO PLAY THE ROLE IT ONCE HAD, THE KOREANS IN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH HAVE THEMSELVES AGREED UPON REFRAINING FROM COMMITTING ARMED PROVOCATIONS, BIG OR SMALL, AND UPON

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TAKING ACTIVE MEASURES FOR PREVENTING INCIDENTS OF

UNEXPECTED MILITARY CONFLICTS. IS THIS NOT THE BEST
GUARANTEE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE ARMISTICE?

IT IS CAPTIOUS TO SAY THAT DISSOLUTION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS COMMAND AND WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES
WOULD NULLIFY THE 1953 ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. IT SHOULD
BE RECALLED THAT THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WAS
SIGNED BETWEEN THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY AND THE CHINESE
PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS ON THE ONE HAND AND THE UNITED NATIONS
COMMAND ON THE OTHER. ACCORDING THE THAT KIND OF REASON-
ING, WOULD NOT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S
VOLUNTEERS MEAN THAT THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT HAD
LONG BEEN NULLIFIED? SINCE THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S
VOLUNTEERS COULD WITHDRAW FROM KOREA, WHY CANNOT THE
FOREIGN FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER THE SIGNBOARD
OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND DO THE SAME?

THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THE SO-CALLED UNITED
NATIONS COMMAND AND OF FOREIGN FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA
IS AT VARIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES AGREED ON BY THE
TWO SIDES IN KOREA THAT "REUNIFICATION SHOULD BE
ACHIEVED INDEPENDENTLY, WITHOUT RELIANCE UPON OUTSIDE
FORCE OR ITS INTERFERENCE". IN POINT OF FACT, IT IS
THE VERY PRESENCE OF THIS OUTSIDE FORCE THAT HAS
EMBOLDENED THE SOUTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES TO REJECT A
NUMBER OF REASONABLE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THUS CAUSING
THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH TO
BOG DOWN. THE KIM DAE JUNG INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED
NOT LONG AGO HAS SHOWN HOW ABJECTLY THE SOUTH KOREAN
AUTHORITIES DEPEND UPON FOREIGN FORCES. IN ORDER THAT
CONDITIONS MAY BE CREATED TO ACCELERATE THE INDEPENDENT
AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF KOREA, THE UNITED NATIONS
COMMAND SHOULD AGREE TO DISBAND, AND ALL FOREIGN FORCES
STATIONED IN SOUTH KOREA SHOULD AGREE TO WITHDRAW".
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